

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 OMB-01 DRC-01 /139 W

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R 201610Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4023

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 12623

VIENNA FOR AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI INFO BOMBAY AND MADRAS
FROM CALCUTTA ON SEP 20. NOW REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO.

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CALCUTTA 1977

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, IN, US

SUBJ: WEST BENGAL NAXALITES: ARNIE LONG AND RANJIT GUPTA

IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED IT WE WOULD LIKE TO DRAW YOUR
ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE WHICH APPEARS IN THE SEP. 20
ISSUE OF FAR EASTERN REVIEW. FULL TEXT IS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE. A COMMON CAUSE. EVIDENCE HAS RECENTLY COME TO
LIGHT IN CALCUTTA POINTING TO POSSIBLE AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT IN
THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT'S ATTEMPTS TO COPE WITH THE NAXALITES.
SUCH A LINK AROUSED SPECULATION DURING THE HEYDAY OF
NAXALITE POLITICS IN THE STATES OF WEST BENGAL, ORISSA,
BIHAR AND ANDRAH PRADESH, BUT THERE WAS NO PROOF. NOW, A
RELIABLE SOURCE IN CALCUTTA CLAIMS THAT AN AMERICAN OFFICIAL,
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ARNOLD LONG, IN THE US CONSULATE THERE, HELD A "NAXALITE

WJMCH" POST FROM THE LATE 1960S TO 1972. LONG'S POSITION WAS OFFICIALLY DESCRIBED AS AN ECONOMIC AFFAIRS OFFICER. HE IS ALSO REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN A CLOSE FRIEND OF RANJIT GUPTA, THE WELL-MANNERED AND REFINED INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE IN WEST BENGAL, WHO WON ACCLAIM FOR HIS SUCCESSFUL DIRECTION OF A SOMEWHAT BRUTAL SUPPRESSION CAMPAIGN AGAINST INDIA'S UNDERGROUND COMMUNIST PARTY. HOWEVER, IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER LONG AND GUPTA COLLABORATED OVER THEIR MUTUAL INTEREST--THE NAXALITE INSURGENCY. THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT HAS NOT BEEN OPPOSED TO DEALING WITH AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE WHEN MUTUAL INTERESTS DICTATED. PRIME MINISTER INDIRA GANDHI'S NEW INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, THE RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS WING, IS REPORTED TO HAVE BOUGHT SOPHISTICATED ELECTRONIC AND OTHER EQUIPMENT FROM THE AMERICANS. AT THE MILITARY LEVEL, THE US GOVERNMENT LAST YEAR REACTIVATED A US \$20 MILLION MILITARY AID PROJECT, WHICH WAS SUSPENDED IN 1971, TO CONSTRUCT A RADAR AND COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK ALONG INDIA'S BORDER WITH CHINA. UNQUOTE
PICKERING

UNQUOTE
SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, INTERVENTION, PROVINCE, PROAMERICAN, POLICIES, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974NEWDE12623
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740265-0511
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740928/aaaaaxdy.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WEST BENGAL NAXALITES: ARNIE LONG AND RANJIT GUPTA IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED IT WE WOULD LIKE TO DRAW YOUR
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, IN, US, (LONG, ARNOLD), (GUPTA, RANJIT)
To: STATE VIENNA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005